





*"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience. ... Therefore, take heed how you hear." Luke 8:11-18*



## *The HABIT of HEARING*



God (the Sower) so loved the world (the Soil) that He gave (sowed) His only begotten Son (the Seed) that whoever (of the Soil) believes in Him (hears & keeps) should not perish but have everlasting life (bear eternal fruit). John 3:16

3 Constants: The Sower; The Seed; The Sowing  
1 Variable: The Soil



**The HABIT of HEARING**

# *The HABIT of HEARING*



## THE BENEFITS OF “HEARING”

### “HEARING” -vs- LISTENING

*"He who is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone." John 8:7*

Those who dropped the stones and walked away are the same men who later cried, *“Crucify Him!”*

Listening may change our minds for a moment.  
Hearing will change our lives for eternity.

# *The HABIT of HEARING*



## THE BENEFITS OF “HEARING”

*FAITH comes by HEARING*

*So then **faith comes by hearing**, and hearing by **the word of God**. Romans 10:17*

*WISDOM comes by HEARING*

*Does not **wisdom cry out**, and understanding lift up her voice? ... **HEAR** instruction and **be wise**. ...*

*Whoever finds Me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord. Proverbs 8:1-36*

# The HABIT of HEARING



## FOUR TYPES OF “HEARING”

**1) The *WAYSIDE*:** *The devil comes and takes away the Word.*  
*How “Birds” Steal The Seed*

➤ **OFFENSES:** Bitterness, Anger, Unforgiveness

*Let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things. ... if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts ... this wisdom ... is earthly, sensual, demonic. James 3*

*Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and  
do not give the devil a foothold. Ephesians 4:26-27*

*I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.  
2 Corinthians 2:10-11*

*He forgave us all our sins ... disarmed the powers and authorities ... Col 2:13-15*

# *The HABIT of HEARING*



## FOUR TYPES OF “HEARING”

*1) The WAYSIDE: The devil comes and takes away the Word.  
How “Birds” Steal The Seed*

➤ **DISTRACTIONS:** Competition for our limited attention span prevents The Seed from ever reaching the ground of our hearts; our ears are filled with many other voices

*In the last days perilous times (lion-like; demonic) will come:  
For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters,  
proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,  
unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal,  
despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of  
pleasure rather than lovers of God. 2 Timothy 3:1-4*



# *The HABIT of HEARING*



## FOUR TYPES OF “HEARING”

**2) The ROCKY SOIL:** They receive with joy but have no root.

*How to Clear the “Rocks” from Your Soil with Repentance*

*Break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, till He comes and rains righteousness on you. Hosea 10:12-13*

*We have renounced the hidden things (rocks) of shame ... 2 Cor 4:1*

*If you confess your sins and He is faithful and just to forgive your sins AND cleanse you from all unrighteousness (rocks) 1 John 1: 9*

*He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses AND forsakes them will have mercy. Proverbs 28:13*



# *The HABIT of HEARING*



## FOUR TYPES OF “HEARING”

**3) THORNS in the Soil:** Choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life – Possessions; Entertainment; Recreation

*How to Pull the Thorns from Your Soil by Re-Prioritizing*

*No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life ... saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God AND His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

*Matthew 6:24-34*

# The HABIT of HEARING



## FOUR TYPES OF “HEARING”

**4) GOOD Soil:** Hear the Word w/ good heart; keeps it & bears fruit  
*The Fruit of “Hearing”*

- **Life-Stability** – The root of the righteous cannot be moved ...  
The root of the righteous yields fruit. Proverbs 12:3, 12
- **Healthy Relationships** – Love God & others ... On these two  
commandments hang all the Law & the Prophets. Matt 22:37-40
- **Trans-Generational Blessing** – Abraham said, “...The Lord God  
... spoke to me ... “To your descendants I give this land ...”

Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! ... These words I  
command you today shall be in your heart ... you shall teach  
them diligently to your children. Deuteronomy 6:1-25